

# Approved As Noted Criteria

Revised 3/30/2000  
4/28/2000  
8/15/2000  
11/1/2007  
11/5/2010

In the interest of promoting the use of Approved as Noted as a tool to expedite plan reviews with few comments, the Plan Review Task Force recommends the following criteria:

## **Part I: General Criteria**

- a) Litmus Test I:
  - Mark up the Approved as Noted items on both sets in 20 minutes or less.
- b) Litmus Test II:
  - Must be a minor simple stand-alone item, not part of a large assembly (example: exit sign vs. rated wall)
  - Must be easily verifiable in the field, not covered up on the finish
  - Should be easily correctable in the field if missed (example: changing a door swing)
- c) If so, the plan reviewer should call, fax or e-mail the A and E advising use of Approved as Noted option, to include the following statement: *“This list is a guide intended to exemplify where Approved as Noted is commonly used. The list is not all inclusive. Plan Reviewers have latitude to use Approved as noted on similar items they believe fall under Part I General Criteria”.*
  - Contact should indicate item, sheet number and code section
  - Code Enforcement will assume ok to proceed, but A & E may decline Approved as Noted
- e) Where more than one discipline is involved in a project, Approved as Noted should only be used if there is a project architect in the lead, or the designated lead engineer.
  - Architect will be copied on any memos to the engineer
  - Architect will be responsible for coordination of code compliance issues in all other disciplines, raised by the Approved as Noted item.
- f) All plan reviewers, as a group, should strive to use these criteria in a consistent and uniform manner.

## **Part II: Examples of revisions eligible to use Approved as Noted (AAN) due to the situation and circumstance of the project, which benefit from use of Approved as Noted if they are the only outstanding comment**

### **IIA. Building Review Examples**

- Tempered glass required
- Lever locks required
- Revising a door swing
- Horn strobes missing
- Adjustment of detail dimensions (handrail heights, etc.)
- Exit Signs
- Accessibility Clearance
- Vertical grab bar – 18”
- Mislabeled doors (fire rating identification)
- Adding an exit light (need clarification on number of lights that can be added)
- Finishes (wall, ceiling, floor, finishes min. requirement, flame spread-smoke development)
- Cabinets meeting reach ranges

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## **IIB. MEP Review Examples**

- Wire size (except for major equipment utilization)
- Exhaust fan (small)
- Fire dampers
- Additional fire strobe
- Trap on Floor drain
- Vent stack size: Noted for minimum or no fixture call required
- Floor drain clean out
- Hi-low drinking fountain: Based on reference to ADAAG detail
- Exit Signs
- Access Panel

## **IIC. CMUD Review Examples**

- Grading/drainage at backflow preventer, depends largely on the site
- No connections between private well system and system fed by CMUD public water
- Type of enclosure
- Installation per CMUD requirements
- Clearance requirements
- Minimum invert at storm water structure IF other elevations are provided and are accurate
- Heat for fire line backflow preventers
- Vault depth for below ground installations IF other elevations are provided and are accurate
- Drain port(s)
- Air gap at relief valve outlet
- CMU – Approved Assembly
- Piping material
- Correct detail included (depending on other deficiencies)
- Tamper switches on fire lines
- Note regarding test requirement
- Location of the BP(s) – minor adjustments to the proposed location of the BP(s), depending on other considerations

## **IID. City and County Fire Review Examples**

- Mislabeled doors
- Adding an exit light (need clarification on number of lights that can be added)
- Clarification of material details
- Manual pull stations
- Fire dampers
- Fire hydrant specifications
- Missing sprinkler heads
- Additional Fire strobe
- Tamper switches
- Revising a door swing
- Fire department connection specifications
- Exit Signs
- Knox Box

### **III. Zoning Fire Review Examples**

- Buffer / screening tree and shrub species
- Buffer / screening tree and shrub size
- Buffer / screening tree and shrub quantities
- Extend buffer / screening as red-lined
- Buffer fence location and/or orientation
- Painted crosswalks
- Bike rack details - location
- Loading space labeling
- Parking lot barriers
- Location of dumpsters
- 5' sidewalk to public way

### **Part III: Examples of items which should not be eligible for use of “Approved as Noted”**

- Nothing changing the design (impacting partition or space layout)
- Ramps vs. steps
- Wall ratings
- Tested assembly (materials/methods)